

## WITNESSES BARE NEW HAVEN LOOT

Testimony Reveals Their Big Deals in Which Tammany Figured.

### PAPERS ARE ALL BURNED

Folk Believes Stockholders Can Start Proceedings for Restitution of Millions of Dollars.

The Interstate Commerce Commission started on its dragnet investigation of the financial transactions of the New Haven Railroad system, and at the expiration of yesterday's session Solicitor Joseph W. Folk, who has charge of the examination of the witnesses and is directing the investigation, had brought to light a considerable amount of information relative to the things that brought this system to its present condition.

### Will Summon Old Directors.

Solicitor Folk expressed the opinion that as a result of yesterday's testimony and additional testimony that will be unearched before the investigation is finished, the stockholders or the present management of the railroad will be in a position to institute legal proceedings for restitution of millions of dollars, out of which he alleges it has been looted.

Solicitor Folk states he now will summon all of the old directors of the New Haven and former President Charles Mellen, the new directors, and Howard Elliott, President Mellen's successor, and numerous other witnesses.

Proceedings yesterday covered, in part, three transactions of the New Haven Railroad, in all of which it is asserted, that the New Haven was looted out of millions of dollars. In two of the instances the testimony yesterday showed that books and other papers had been burned which contained names of stockholders and which would have cleared up many interesting points. In a third instance it appeared that one man, an attorney, had possession of all the books and records and, so far as the commission knows, still has them.

### Both Dummy Officers.

Whipple and Field both admitted they were dummy officers and knew nothing of the affairs of the Billard Company. Both declared that in October last, at the solicitation of Samuel C. Morehouse, an attorney, of New Haven, they had become officers of the Billard Company. Mr. Whipple said that Morehouse gave him \$10,000 to purchase ten shares of stock of the Billard Company. It appeared that at the same time Morehouse also gave Whipple \$10,000 to purchase five shares of stock for Mr. Field, and five shares of stock for a man named Kelly. A day or two after the purchase, Whipple and Field were elected directors and Field president of the company. The stock was purchased from John L. Billard, Whipple admitted that he in turn had sold the stock, for \$11,000, and still had the proceeds with the exception of money which he had spent as counsel fees in the proceedings.

ent proceeding and in paying his expenses to and from Washington. Oakleigh Thorn, of New York the principal witness, testified as to work he had done for President Mellen in the acquisition of the West Chester and Port Chester electric roads. His testimony showed that his contract was with the New Haven Railroad and that he could not account for the sum of \$1,000,000. Mr. Thorn's explanation was that he could not account for this sum because he had burned books containing the information.

Mr. Thorn said that while his contract was with the New Haven Railroad he received all money through the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. He made no accounting to any one, he said, and kept no vouchers. He admitted, when pressed by Mr. Folk, that politicians in Tammany Hall had sold blocks of the securities of the West Chester and Port Chester properties. He admitted also that at the time he made his disbursements of something like over \$5,000,000, the West Chester property had only expended on it something like \$1,000,000, and that the Port Chester road only amounted to a right of way.

Mr. Thorn admitted that at the time he began his negotiations the parties behind the West Chester route and the parties behind the Port Chester route were rivals and that both had considerable influence with the powers that had the granting of franchises. It developed during Mr. Thorn's testimony that "Tim" Sullivan, of Tammany Hall, sold him West Chester stock.

L. S. Miller, president of the West Chester road, testified and identified a letter that he had written to President Mellen. In this letter Mr. Miller estimated that the West Chester road would account for something over \$1,700,000.

Another witness called by Mr. Folk was Cornelius S. Sweetland, of Providence, R. I., president of the Providence Banking Company, and other Providence corporations. Mr. Sweetland said that inadvertently books belonging to the Rhode Island Securities Company, the subsidiary through which the New Haven acquired Rhode Island trolley lines, had been burned.

Mr. Thorn will continue his testimony today, and other witnesses will testify in connection with the Billard Company's affairs.

## WATCH AND WAIT AT VERA CRUZ

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

a machine gun, under Lieut. Frank J. Fletcher, of the Florida, left here this afternoon to try to effect restoration of railroad and telegraphic communication with Mexico City.

The men were heavily armed and rode in a special train which carried supplies for repair of the tracks eight miles west of here. A flag of truce was hung upon the locomotive, and Lieut. Fletcher was under orders to get in communication with Gen. Gustavo Maas, the federal commander, in an attempt to secure Mexican co-operation in the rebuilding of the railway at points where it has been destroyed.

### BADGER ORDERED TO SEEK MISSING MEXICAN BOATS

The missing Mexican gunboats Zarcos, Progress and Bravo have stirred Secretary of the Navy Daniels to make an effort to ascertain their whereabouts. Admiral Badger yesterday was wired to find where they are located and to report immediately.

For several days no word has been received as to their whereabouts, and it is believed in navy circles that these ships may have eluded the watchfulness of the American fleet and may become a danger, if not watched closely.

## Huerta's Figures "Bluff" COULDN'T MUSTER A MILLION MEN Gen. Gibson Is Sceptical

Veteran of Mexican War of 1848 Says We Wouldn't Need Two Years to "Lick" Mexico.

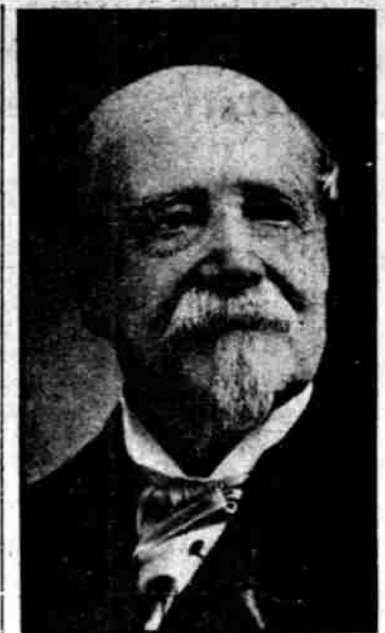
Victoriano Huerta, the Mexican dictator, is bluffing when he says he can marshal an army of 1,000,000 men against an American invasion, according to Gen. Horatio Gibson, U. S. Army, retired, who was a cadet at West Point during the Mexican war of 1848.

"I seriously doubt if Huerta can find 1,000,000 fighting men in the whole of Mexico," said Gen. Gibson, at his home, 1812 Twenty-first street northwest, yesterday afternoon. "There is only one way he can do it and that is to raise an army of conscripts and all military commanders know the disadvantages of an army of unwilling fighters."

He did not think that a war with Mexico should last over two years, at the outside, he continued. "For that was the time we needed to lick them in 1848 and since that time we have gained a tremendous advantage, an advantage greatly in excess of Mexico's."

"We will have to be careful, however, of the health of our men who go to Mexico, for unless they are kept on a proper diet, they will be liable to epidemics of various diseases. Tropical disease will be one of the worst enemies the American army will be called upon to fight if it goes into Mexico. The soldiers should not be allowed any whiskey, for a diet of fruit and whiskey has killed more soldiers in the tropics than bullets."

"I do not wish to represent myself as a critic of the President's attitude in the matter of Mexican intervention, but personally, I think intervention should have come sooner."



GEN. HORATIO GIBSON

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## 3,000 STEEL EMPLOYEES LOSE JOBS THIS WEEK

Corporation Decides to Close Down Big Plant Because of Scarcity of New Business.

New York, April 29.—Because of the scarcity of new business the United States Steel Corporation will lay off about 3,000 men this week and close down the Benwood plant of the National Tube Works. Three blast furnaces also will be blown out.

Orders received by the corporation have fallen off somewhat in the last few days and are now running at about 20,000 tons daily. Shipments also have been reduced and indications are that the unfilled tonnage at the end of this month will show a decrease of about 350,000 tons compared with March 31.

The steel industry is more depressed than at any time this year. April earnings have been lower than the average of the first quarter and the trust's profits of \$2 to \$3 a ton mean a dismal showing for other companies, whose profits are usually several dollars a ton lower, says the Iron Age.

English gas companies recently bought more than 1,000,000 tons of coal from Germany.

## PRICE OF DAY'S RIOTS 15 LIVES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

on the main line of the Colorado and Southern near the colony where a man was reported to have been wounded.

### Driven to Seek Cover.

The flag showed the marks of five bullets, the first of a continuous fusillade from the militia's line, which according to the physician, drove him to cover under an embankment and held him there for almost an hour. When he reached the water tank, he declared, the injured man was dying.

The battle at Forbes began about 5 o'clock this morning. Four hours later, with the big mine devastated at a tremendous property loss, the strikers, 150 in number, left the hills to the east, west and south and marched back to camp, reaching Trinidad about noon.

## Operations in Mexico Have Demonstrated Preparedness of Navy, Daniels Asserts

"If they have no other result, the operations in Mexico have tested out the organization and preparedness of the Navy," President Wilson issued orders at 4 o'clock in the morning to seize the custom-house at Vera Cruz. Ships were chartered to carry away the refugees, supplies were shipped, and ship after ship was fitted out, received officers, crew and stores, and slipped away to the south with hardly a ripple of confusion.

The newest Dreadnought, the New York, sailed, complete and ready in every respect, ten days after going into commission. Gunboats which had been laid up in reserve were placed in commission within forty-eight hours of receiving their orders.

"Among the first articles supplied when it was found that the blue-jackets were to be landed were 10,000 yards of mosquito netting and 200 pounds of bug powder," from statement of Secretary of the Navy Daniels.

## NAVY AVIATORS AT VERA CRUZ



Left to right—Lieut. P. H. L. Bellinger and Lieut. R. Sanley. United States navy aviators, who are making daily flights over the territory surrounding Vera Cruz and reporting to Admiral Badger and Gen. Funston the movements of the federal forces commanded by Gen. Maas. The aviators have ascertained that the Mexican troops are confining their activities almost exclusively to destroying railroad bridges and stretches of tracks on the road running between Vera Cruz and Mexico City.

The defenders numbered only forty.

The dead at Forbes:

S. A. Newman, mine blacksmith.

Jack Smith, miner.

Ed. Kester, miner.

Three unidentified strikers.

Three Japanese.

The injured are:

One Chinese, negro, shot through stomach.

Nine Japanese, shot through shoulders.

H. Jones, boarding house superintendent, thumb shot off; three Greek strikers, two in a local hospital.

Mine Guards Outnumbered.

The sole defense of the mine property, which extended a mile and a half along Forbes Canon, five miles from the militia camp at Ludlow, was that of Nichol's force of guards and miners, fighting from below and greatly outnumbered.

A militia outpost, which saw men leave the hills after the battle, said 145 were counted. The Colorado Fuel and Iron Company received reports that there were 157 in the body which reached Trinidad at noon. Armando Pelissari, union organizer, made futile efforts to persuade men who left camp here to participate and that the others had gone out to meet them returning.

When the militia swarmed over the hills above Forbes, their presence threatened destruction of the bank below, the men at the mine sprang instantly to defend the camp, and the whole attack and Superintendent Nichol's force did not sleep for several nights, awaiting it.

Last night, he appealed for protection to the militia camp at Trinidad and Denver. Superintendents George Pearl, of the Rock Mountain, and Bert J. Mattison, of the C. F. & I. companies, there, both made futile efforts to have troops sent to the camp from Ludlow.

Gun Becomes Useless.

All through the fight, the force at the camp waited for the troops and it was reported in Trinidad that they had gone, but none arrived.

The principal defense of the camp was a machine gun, mounted on a hill above the superintendent's office at the mine property. It was effective for about half an hour, when it became choked.

Nichol ordered three men to take charge of the machine gun and the rest of the gun was extended over the fight. The men with the handle were among nine guards missing at noon.

## ROCKEFELLER CALLED 'WOLF' AND BLAMED FOR STRIKE DURING DEBATE IN HOUSE

President Wilson and his advisers are watching developments in the strike region of Colorado with anxious solicitude. They are hopeful that the presence of Federal troops near the mine will soon result in the restoration of at least a semblance of peace.

The trouble makers "Colorado have still today to disperse and retire peacefully to their respective abodes," according to President Wilson's proclamation, issued Monday. Should either the strikers or those acting for the mine owners fail to comply with the President's injunction the Federal troops will take a hand in restoring order "until the State can react to the emergency."

In the House debate yesterday attention was devoted to the troubles in the strike region. John D. Rockefeller was charged with having a "wolf in sheep's clothing" and a "man in black" by Representative Treadway, of Massachusetts.

"Rockefeller has made more combinations than any other man in the country," said Treadway. "He is a wolf in that line."

The attack on Rockefeller in the House was the first of a series of statements, given out by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., of his interview Wednesday with Chairman Foster, of the House Mines and Mining Committee, for several days.

Representative Keating, of Colorado, denounced the mine-owning corporations for their treatment of the unions. On the other hand, the Federal and State authorities in Colorado, who are inclined to be critical of the Mine Workers' Union, and he justified John D. Rockefeller, Jr., for his public exposure of the "open shop."

Mr. Keating, who introduced the resolution under which the House Committee on Mines and Mining made an inquiry into the interests of the miners and the mine owners, reiterating his charge that the Rockefeller family is in large part responsible for the conditions that now confront the Federal and State authorities in Colorado. He charged that the Rockefeller family had been instrumental in effecting the passage of legislation in Colorado to limit the interests of labor.

He strongly intimated that the Rockefeller interests had likewise exerted a sinister influence on the judiciary of the State.

Mr. Keating charged that the Colorado laws are enforced in Colorado "except in the counties of Huerfano and Las Animas, where Mr. Rockefeller and his associates dominate the situation. 'In these counties,' said Mr. Keating, 'the coal companies have owned every public official for years and absolutely the members of the House own their own coats.'"

Mr. Keating criticized Gov. Ammons' action in the coal strike.

"He has permitted the militia to be turned over to the coal mining companies. He has compelled these militiamen practically to take the places once occupied by the gunmen from West Virginia."

"Do you think the governor of Colorado ought to be impeached?" asked Representative Madden, of Illinois.

"I leave that to the people of the State," responded Mr. Keating.

Representative Stevenson, of Minnesota, suggested that if the mine owners had been guilty of the offenses charged against them that the State of Colorado should withdraw the charters under which they operate.

The Secretary of War was advised yesterday that the four troops, second squadron, Fifth Cavalry, ordered to the strike region to quell the riots, left Fort Leavenworth, Kans., at 1 o'clock yesterday morning. The troops ordered from Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., are on their way to Canon City, Colo.

William Green, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, yesterday issued a statement characterizing as "absolutely inaccurate" John D. Rockefeller's version of the questions at issue in the Colorado strike.

"It is not true," he said, "that the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company settled, before the strike, the eight-hour work day, semi-monthly pay and other points at issue. Had these concessions been made at the time indicated by Mr. Rockefeller, the strike never would have been started. The question of unionizing the mines is not the issue."

Mr. Green charged that the mine employers refused to meet or treat with the strikers, and declared that "responsibility for a continuation of the industrial war in Colorado rests fairly and squarely with Mr. Rockefeller."

## ASKS PROTECTION FOR ITALIANS IN STRIKE ZONE

An international aspect was given the strike troubles in Colorado yesterday when the Italian Ambassador made representations to the Secretary of State in behalf of miners of Italian citizenship. Assurances were given by Secretary Bryan that all residents of Colorado would be accorded equal protection by the Federal authorities.

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## MAKE ATTACK ON 8-HOUR LAW

Retail Merchants Plan Test Case on Ground Is Unconstitutional.

### GIVE BIG HOUSEWARMING

Prominent Business Men Hear Denouncements of New Legislation Governing Women.

The constitutionality of the eight-hour law for women probably will be tested in the courts by the Retail Merchants' Association. After a conference at the housewarming in the new quarters, on the fourth floor of the Star Building, last night, the matter was referred to the general counsel of the association with a request for a legal opinion. The attorney's views will be reported at the next meeting. Last night's developments preclude quick action on the report.

Declaring the belief that the law discriminates against merchants, the members expressed the opinion that it is unconstitutional. One prominent member announced that he already had discharged a woman stenographer and that he had decided also to let three women heads of departments go on the same account. The women are paid, respectively, \$1,000, \$1,200, and \$1,500 a year, and their places will be given to men unless something occurs to cause a change in the employer's mind. He said:

"Quit Making Sale."

"Since the eight-hour law went into effect the \$1,500 woman quit work one afternoon on the stroke of the eighth hour, when she was selling a customer more than \$200 worth of goods. She told the customer the law compelled her to quit in the midst of this service. I then made up my mind that this was no place for a woman under the new law. I reached the same conclusion as to the other two department heads. I hate to lose them, for all three are women with brains. They know just what to do, and it will take me a long time to train three men to take their places. But the law practically says they must be discharged. I expect to pay men the same salaries these women are getting."

The fact that in some put-out attorney's offices in the Capital there are many stenographers and that these women are exempted by the law was brought to the attention of the association as an instance of the discrimination of the law.

"Operates Against Women."

"The eight-hour law operates directly against those it was designed to benefit," declared another member. "We frequently have extra work for the girls and they would like to do it if they might, but under this law we have to bring in others to do it. They are not efficient as our own girls, and besides this, our own girls resent the employment of new girls in their places at any time."

One merchant reported that he worked many stenographers and was especially desirous of testing the law. "If the law is to remain in force I may be compelled to let all these girls go," said he.

A resolution of regret upon the recent death of Edward Sommers, for years an esteemed member, and another thanking the Chamber of Commerce for its courtesy to the retail merchants were adopted.

Big Attendance.

Many representative business men of Washington attended at the housewarming. While detained at home, Cuno H. Rudolph, president of the Board of Trade, phoned his congratulations to Secretary Charles J. Columbus. Secretary Thomas Grant, of the Chamber of Commerce, William H. Singleton, vice president of the Board of Trade, and Charles J. Columbus, secretary of the board, and other officers and members of trade bodies were present.

Resolutions were adopted congratulating E. C. Graham and Claude E. Miller, of committee on furnishing the new quarters, for the excellent judgment and taste displayed in their selections, to Topham's, Inc., for a desk set; to R. Harris & Co., through A. D. Prince, chairman of the jewellers' section of the association, for a clock; to M. G. Copeland & Co. for a flag, and members of the association who are subscribing to the furnishing fund.

Joseph Straubinger, the first president of the association, was honored with a rising vote of thanks.

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